

Cost of Dispensing Survey report expected in August

Thanks to strong participation in the Alabama Medicaid Agency's Cost of Dispensing Survey (CODS), the Agency has moved one step closer to establishing a benchmark rate that can be used to compensate pharmacists for the professional services they provide to Medicaid recipients.

Almost 70 percent of all in-state Alabama Medicaid-enrolled pharmacies completed the survey during April and May. Administered under contract by Health Information Designs (HID), the survey asked the state's pharmacists to submit comprehensive data regarding staffing, overhead and other cost information using a survey instrument and instructions developed in close coordination with pharmacy-related organizations, according to Kelli Littlejohn, PharmD., director of Pharmacy Services for the Agency.

An updated report to pharmacy associations is expected in August.

"On behalf of the Agency, I want to thank all of the survey participants for taking the time to assist us in determining a statistically valid, true cost of dispensing of medications under the Alabama Medicaid program," said Medicaid Commissioner Carol Steckel.